

We claim:

1. A cable lock, comprising:
a cable having a cross-sectional shape, the cross-sectional shape of the
cable having a radius varying at different circumferential positions
of the cross-sectional shape;
a housing defining an internal cavity therein; and
a wall positioned to block access into the cavity of the housing, the wall
having an aperture defined therethrough, the aperture having a
shape and having a radius varying at different circumferential
positions of the aperture, at least a portion of the cross-sectional
shape of the cable having a shape complementary to the shape of the
aperture to inhibit ingress of an object into the internal cavity of the
housing between the cable and the wall.
2. The cable lock of claim 1, wherein the wall is at least partially positioned
within the housing.
3. The cable lock of claim 1, wherein the wall is disc-shaped.
4. The cable lock of claim 1, wherein the wall is rotatable with respect to the
housing.
5. The cable lock of claim 1, wherein the wall has a thickness and the aperture
of the wall has a shape substantially the same throughout the thickness.
6. The cable lock of claim 5, wherein the shape of the aperture is twisted from
a front surface of the wall to a rear surface of the wall about an axis extending through the
housing and the aperture.
7. The cable lock of claim 1, wherein the aperture has a scalloped edge.
8. The cable lock of claim 1, wherein the wall is shaped to prevent relative
rotation between the cable and the wall.

9. The cable lock of claim 1, wherein spiral grooves are defined in an edge of the aperture and from a front surface of the wall to a rear surface of the wall.

5 10. The cable lock of claim 1, wherein:
the cable is a wire cable including wrapped wire spirals; and
spiral grooves are defined in an edge of the aperture, the spiral grooves being
complementarily shaped to the spirals and adapted to receive the spirals therein when the
cable is inserted through the aperture.

10 11. A method of locking a cable lock, the method comprising:
inserting an end of a cable into and through an aperture of a wall, the cable
having a cross-sectional shape with a radius varying at different
circumferential positions of the cable, the aperture having a cross-
15 sectional shape with a radius varying at different circumferential
positions of the aperture, the cable and aperture having
complementary shapes;
inserting the end of the cable into and through a housing in a first direction;
preventing movement of the cable through the housing in a second
20 direction substantially opposite the first direction; and
blocking ingress of objects into the housing along a surface of the cable
through the aperture by the complementary shapes of the cable and
aperture.

25 12. The method of claim 11, further comprising positioning the wall at least
partially within the housing.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the wall is disc-shaped.

30 14. The method of claim 11, further comprising rotating the wall with respect
to the housing.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein the wall has a thickness and the aperture of the wall has a shape substantially the same throughout the thickness.

5 16. The method of claim 15, wherein the shape of the aperture is twisted from a front surface of the wall to a rear surface of the wall about an axis extending through the housing and the aperture.

17. The method of claim 11, wherein the aperture has a scalloped edge.

10 18. The method of claim 11, wherein the wall is shaped to prevent relative rotation between the cable and the wall.

19. A cable lock, comprising:
a body having
15 a first portion defining a housing having an internal cavity; and
a second portion having an aperture therethrough and a visible
indicator thereon, the visible indicator deformable under
force applied to the second portion; and
a cable retained within the aperture in the second portion of the body,
20 the cable having an end insertable into the internal cavity of the
housing to lock the cable lock.

20 20. The cable lock of claim 19, wherein the second portion of the body defines a crimped portion of the body.

25 21. The cable lock of claim 19, wherein the cable is retained within the aperture in the second portion by a crimp.

30 22. The cable lock of claim 19, wherein the first portion and the second portion are separate pieces connected together.

23. The cable lock of claim 19 wherein the body is an integral one-piece element.

31. A cable lock, comprising:
a housing; and
a cable insertable into the housing in a first direction, the cable having a
locked state within the housing in which the cable is movable with
respect to the housing in the first direction but is restrained against
movement with respect to the housing in a second direction
substantially opposite the first direction;
wherein the cable is rotatable relative to the housing when in the locked
state.

32. The cable lock of claim 31, further comprising a grip at least partially
located within the housing, the grip movable to permit the cable to move in the first
direction and being engageable with the cable to restrain the cable from moving in the
second direction.

33. The cable lock of claim 32, wherein the grip is one of a ball, a pin and a
plate.

34. The cable lock of claim 31, further comprising a second housing positioned
within the first housing.

35. The cable lock of claim 34, wherein the second housing is moveable axially
with respect to the first housing.

36. The cable lock of claim 34, wherein the second housing is rotatable with
respect to the first housing.

37. The cable lock of claim 34, further comprising a grip at least partially
positioned within the second housing, the grip being movable to permit the cable to move
in the first direction and being engageable with the cable to restrain the cable from moving
in the second direction, the grip being spring-loaded in the second direction within the
second housing.

38. The cable lock of claim 34, wherein the cable is insertable into the second housing and rotatable with respect to the second housing.

39. The cable lock of claim 34, further comprising at least one grip at least partially positioned within the second housing and movable with respect to the cable, the at least one grip movable to permit the cable to move in the first direction and engageable with the cable to restrain the cable from moving in the second direction.

40. The cable lock of claim 39, wherein the at least one grip is one of a ball, a pin, and a plate.

41. The cable lock of claim 39, wherein the at least one grip is spring-loaded toward engagement with the cable.

42. The cable lock of claim 31, wherein the housing is crimped at an end thereof.

43. The cable lock of claim 31, wherein the housing has an open end, the cable lock further comprising an end cap positionable within the open end of the housing, the housing extending around an edge of the end cap to secure the end cap in the open end of the housing.

44. The cable lock of claim 43, wherein the end cap has a peripheral edge enclosed by the housing.

45. A method of locking a cable lock, the method comprising:
inserting a cable into a housing in a first direction;
feeding the cable into the housing to a locked position in which the cable is restrained from motion in a second direction substantially opposite the first direction; and
rotating the cable with respect to the housing in the locked position of the cable.

46. The method of claim 45, further comprising:
moving a grip within the housing with the cable;
permitting the cable to move in a first direction past the grip; and
resisting motion of the cable in a second direction substantially opposite the
5 first direction with the grip.

47. The method of claim 46, wherein the grip is one of a ball, a pin and a plate.

48. The method of claim 46, further comprising feeding the cable into a second
10 housing located at least partially within the first housing.

49. The method of claim 48, further comprising moving the second housing
axially with respect to the first housing.

50. The method of claim 48, further comprising rotating the second housing
15 within the first housing.

51. The method of claim 46, further comprising biasing the grip into
engagement with the cable.
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52. The method of claim 48, further comprising biasing the second housing in a
direction opposite a direction of insertion of the cable into the second housing.